

HERBERT HOOVER BIRTHPLACE

Downey and Penn Streets, West Branch

Herbert Hoover, 31st president of the United States, was born on August 10, 1874, in this tiny two-room board-and-batten cottage. West Branch was a Quaker community, and Hoover's father was the village blacksmith at the time. The cottage was restored in 1938, the former president offering advice and providing recollections. It is now the centerpiece of the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site which also includes the Hoover Presidential Library and the graves of the president and his wife, Lou Henry Hoover.